

1           **In the Claims**

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- 3       1. (Currently Amended) A processor-readable medium comprising processor-  
4 executable instructions for:

5           parsing an input file to recognize a file format of the input file, wherein the  
6           parsing repeatedly parses with a plurality of component parsers  
7           contained within a compound parser, wherein the compound parser  
8           is extensible and each of the plurality of component parsers is  
9           configured for recognition of a specific file format;

10          checking contents of the input file, according to the recognized file format  
11           if-available, to determine whether executable code exists within the  
12           input file; and

13          continuing to parse the input file with all remaining component parsers  
14           after at least one component parser recognizes the file format of the  
15           input file; and

16          sending a status in response to results of said checking.

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- 18       2. (Original) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein

19           sending a status comprises further instructions for:

20           sending a file-has-no-code status when the file format of the input file was  
21           recognized and no executable code was found; and

22           sending a file-has-code status when executable code was found.

- 1       3. (Original) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1,  
2            additionally comprising further instructions for sending a don't-know status  
3            when the file format of the input file was not recognized.
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- 5       4. (Cancelled)
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- 7       5. (Original) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 4,  
8            additionally comprising further instructions for sending a don't-know status  
9            when each of the plurality of component parsers contained within the  
10           extensible parser fails to recognize sections of the input file.
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- 12      6. (Original) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein  
13            sending the status comprises further instructions for sending the status to an  
14            email program.
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- 16      7. (Original) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein  
17            sending the status comprises further instructions for sending the status to an  
18            instant messaging program.
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- 20      8. (Original) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein  
21            sending the status comprises further instructions for sending the status to an  
22            internet browsing program.
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- 1       9. (Original) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein  
2            contents of the input file comprises further instructions for  
3            operating a component parser portion of an extensible parser to recognize a  
4            specific data file format.
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- 6       10. (Original) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1, wherein  
7            parsing the input file comprises instructions for operating a parser  
8            configured to recognize a plurality of file formats.
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- 10      11. (Cancelled)
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- 12      12. (Cancelled)
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- 14      13. (Original) The processor-readable medium as recited in claim 11,  
15            additionally comprising further instructions for parsing the input file until a  
16            component parser recognizes the file format of the input file.

- 1       14. (Original) A method of detecting code-free files, comprising:  
2                  parsing an input file with a compound parser configured to include a  
3                          plurality of component parsers, wherein each component parser is  
4                          configured to recognize a specific data file format;  
5                  analyzing contents of the input file according to the recognized specific file  
6                          format, where available, to determine if the input file contains  
7                          executable code; and  
8                  sending a status in response to results of said analyzing.
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- 10       15. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14, additionally comprising:  
11                  sending a file-has-no-code status when the file format of the input file was  
12                          recognized and no executable code was found; and  
13                  sending a file-has-code status when executable code was found.
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- 15       16. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14, additionally comprising  
16                  sending a don't-know status when a file format of the input file was not  
17                          recognized.
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- 19       17. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14, additionally comprising  
20                  sending the status to an email program.
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- 22       18. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14, additionally comprising  
23                  sending the status to an instant messaging program.
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- 1    19. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14, additionally comprising  
2        sending the status to an internet browsing program.
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- 4    20. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein parsing the input file  
5        comprises parsing the input file with each of the plurality of component  
6        parsers within the compound parser.
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- 8    21. (Original) An apparatus for detecting code-free files, comprising:  
9        a compound parser configured to repeatedly parse an input file, wherein  
10            each component parser within the compound parser is configured to  
11            recognize executable code within a specific file format selected from  
12            among a group of data file formats; and  
13        a controller to examine success of each of the component parsers to  
14            recognize the specific file format for which it was configured to  
15            recognize and to find executable code within the input file, wherein  
16            the controller is configured to send a status in response to results of  
17            said checking.
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- 19    22. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 21, additionally configured so  
20        that if none of the component parsers recognizes the file format of the input  
21        file, a don't-know status is sent.
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- 1       23. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 21, wherein the apparatus for  
2                   detecting code-free files is additionally configured to send the status to an  
3                   email program.
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- 5       24. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 21, wherein the apparatus for  
6                   detecting code-free files is additionally configured to send the status to an  
7                   instant messaging program.
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- 9       25. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 21, wherein the apparatus for  
10                  detecting code-free files is additionally configured to send the status to an  
11                  internet browsing program.
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- 13       26. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 21, additionally configured to  
14                  send the status to:  
15                  a firewall;  
16                  a host intrusion detector; or  
17                  a host vulnerability assessor.
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- 19       27. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 21, additionally configured to  
20                  send the status to a program selected from a group of programs,  
21                  comprising:  
22                  a backup program;  
23                  a CD/DVD burning program; and  
24                  a P2P file-sharing program.

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2 **28.** (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 21, wherein each of the  
3 component parsers is configured to recognize one of a plurality of data file  
4 formats.  
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6 **29.** (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 21, wherein the compound  
7 parser is configured to allow extension by addition of a new component  
8 parser to the compound parser, wherein the new component parser  
9 recognizes a further file format and recognizes executable code within the  
10 further file format.  
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